

June 3, 1879.

Prof. Flower, LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary laid upon the table two volumes of original drawings of the birds of India, which had been deposited in the Society's Library by Brigadier-General Andrew Cooke M'Master.

The two volumes contained about 270 figures of the birds of the Indian Peninsula, mostly named and arranged after Jerdon's 'Birds of India,' and would be of great use in determining Indian birds.

The drawings were stated to have been mostly made by soldiers in General M'Master's house at Secunderabad, under his superintendence; but some had been executed by the native artists of Southern India at Trichinopoly and Bangalore.

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Mr. C. L. Jackson, F.Z.S., exhibited the skull of the female Sea-lion (*Otaria stelleri*?) which was lately living in the Southport Aquarium, and which had been killed by the male suddenly jumping from the rock and striking against her.

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Mr. Sclater laid before the meeting a small collection of birds lately forwarded to him by Dr. Adolf Döring, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Cordova in the Argentine Republic, and made the following remarks on them:—

(1) *LOPHOSPINGUS PUSILLUS* (Burm.); Cab. Journ. f. Orn. 1878, p. 195.

I quite agree with Dr. Cabanis that the proper situation for this bird is not with *Gubernatrix*, as placed by Burmeister, but I rather question whether it ought not to be in the same genus as *Coryphospingus griseo-cristatus* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

(2) *TENIOPTERA MURINA* (Lafr. et d'Orb.); Scl. P. Z. S. 1872, p. 541; Cab. l. c. p. 196.

Agrees with Mr. Hudson's skins from the Rio Negro of Patagonia.

(3) *CNIPOLEGUS CINEREUS*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1870, p. 58; Cab. l. c. p. 197.

A female of this interesting species, of which I described the male from a single skin in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution.

(4) *HABRURA MINIMA* (Gould); Cab. et Heine, Mus. Hein. ii. p. 53.

*Hapalura minima*, Cab. J. f. O. 1878, p. 197.

This is the first example I have ever been able to procure of this scarce and delicate little Tyrannine bird.

- (5) *FURNARIUS TRICOLOR*, Döring; Cab. J. f. O. 1878, p. 196.

This little species, which is quite new to me, is even rather smaller than *F. minor*, Pelzeln, and quite different in colour.

- (6) *SYNALLAXIS ORBIGNII* (Reichenb.); Scl. P. Z. S. 1874, p. 22.

Dr. Döring's skin is marked "*S. fugax*, sp. nov.," but agrees well with one in my collection (ex Mendoza, *S. crassirostris*, Landbeck) which I refer to *S. orbignii* (Reichenb.).

- (7) *SYNALLAXIS SCLATERI*, Döring; Cab. J. f. O. 1878, p. 196.

This species, which Dr. Döring has done me the honour to call after me, is certainly very nearly allied to my *S. hudsoni* (P. Z. S. 1874, p. 25), and may be the same. Unfortunately I have mislaid the typical specimen of *S. hudsoni*, and cannot make the necessary comparison. There is a faint tinge of yellow on the throat of *S. sclateri*; this was certainly well marked in my *S. hudsoni*.

- (8) *PHACELLODOMUS SIBILATRIX*, Döring, MS.

I have already a Bolivian example of this species in my collection, but had confounded it with *P. frontalis*, as likewise Lafresnaye and D'Orbigny seem to have done. It appears distinguishable from *P. frontalis* by the rufous colour on the bend of the wing.

- (9) *NOTHOPROCTA DOERINGI*, Cab. J. f. Orn. 1878, p. 198.

This species is closely allied to *N. pentlandi* (Gray), of Bolivia, and to *N. punctulata* (Gray), of Chili. Specimens of all three species are in the Paris Museum.

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The following papers were read :—

1. A Description of the Vessels of the Neck and Head in the Ground-Hornbill (*Bucorvus abyssinicus*). By W. OTTLEY, F.R.C.S., Demonstrator of Anatomy at Univ. Coll. Lond.

[Received May 17, 1879.]

In a paper read before this Society in 1876 (see P. Z. S. 1876, p. 60), Mr. Garrod drew attention to a peculiarity in the vessels of the neck of the Ground-Hornbill, and pointed out that the carotid arteries, instead of being found in their usual place in the middle of the neck and in the hypapophysial canal, were replaced by two vessels which accompanied the pneumogastric nerves as far as the head. This peculiarity had not been observed in any other bird, the nearest approach to it being found in some Parrots, where such a vessel is found on one side of the neck, while the carotid artery of the other has its normal position. Though at first inclined to suppose that these aberrant arteries were really carotids, Mr. Garrod felt some doubt on the point,